

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A wavelength path switching node apparatus is provided that improves the utilization efficiency of wavelength resources by allocating wavelength paths by

5 following traffic variations in packet units. A node apparatus on the wavelength path start point side includes: a packet distributing section that stores input packets in a buffer, fetches the packets from the buffer and distributes to an initial path and additional paths; a control section that allocates the additional paths based on distribution states of the packet units; and an optical switch that switches wavelength paths based on this control.

10 A node apparatus on the wavelength path end point side includes: a monitoring section that monitors packets distributed to the initial path and the additional paths; a control section that allocates the additional paths based on distribution states of the packet units obtained by this monitoring; and an optical switch that switches wavelength paths based on this control.